

In The Claims

Please amend claims 3 and 4 and add new claim 5 as follows:

Claim 1. (ORIGINAL) A cigarette with an increased self-extinguishing tendency, wherein the cigarette paper has annular zones whose porosity is reduced by the presence of a polymer, characterised in that the interfacial tension of the polymer is over 33 mJ/m^2 .

Claim 2. (ORIGINAL) A cigarette according to claim 1 characterised in that the interfacial tension is between 36 and 42 mJ/m^2 .

Claim 3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A cigarette according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~ characterised in that the polymer includes at least one of the compounds polyvinyl acetate, partially hydrolysed polyvinyl acetate or polyvinyl alcohol.

Claim 4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A process for producing cigarettes according to ~~one of~~ claims claim 1 ~~to 3~~ characterised in that the polymer dissolved in organic solvent is applied to the cigarette paper by an intaglio printing process and penetrates for the predominant part thereof into the cigarette paper.

Claim 5. (NEW) A cigarette according to claim 2 characterised in that the polymer includes at least one of the compounds polyvinyl acetate, partially hydrolysed polyvinyl acetate or polyvinyl alcohol.